



United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
VALLES CALDERA NATIONAL PRESERVE  
P.O. Box 359  
090 Villa Louis Martin  
Jemez Springs, NM 87025



## *2017 Livestock Grazing Program Request for Applications*

Valles Caldera National Preserve is requesting applications from livestock operators for its 2017 livestock grazing program. The preserve will issue a single one-year special use permit to operate the 2017 livestock grazing program; the permittee can be a single livestock owner, or can be the representative of multiple owners or of a livestock association. The preserve will offer two livestock grazing areas that have a combined average capacity of 257 Animal Units per Month (AUMs) for a summer grazing period of four (4) months (June 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017). A summary of the program is provided below, and a copy of the preserve's Livestock Management Plan is attached. Applicants are required to meet all specifications in the Livestock Management Plan. An application submission form is also attached, and must be completed to be considered.

To be considered for the preserve's 2017 livestock grazing permit, completed proposals **must be received by** close-of-business (4:30 PM MDT) on Friday, April 14, 2017. Proposals may be sent by mail, FEDEX, UPS, or other delivery service, hand-delivered, or via email.

Selection of the 2017 permittee will be accomplished by random drawing. All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated for the operator's ability to meet all the requirements of the Livestock Management Plan. Once each operator's application has been determined to have met all the Livestock Management Plan's requirements, the qualifying operator's name will be placed into the drawing. Applicants that cannot meet all the requirements will not be included in the drawing. The drawing will be conducted on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at 1:00 PM, at the preserve's administrative headquarters in Jemez Springs, NM. Applicants or applicants' representatives, and the public, are invited to attend; however, applicants are not required to be present to be selected. The randomly-selected permittee will be contacted immediately by telephone and email, with a follow-up written letter. Applicants not selected in the drawing will be notified as soon as the selected applicant agrees in writing to the special use permit. The drawing will also select up to two runners-up, who will be contacted in the order of their selection should the first and/or second randomly-selected permittee decline to accept the special use permit.

## **Summary of the 2017 Livestock Grazing Program on Valles Caldera National Preserve**

Number of special use permits to be issued: 1.

Location: Valles Caldera National Preserve, Sandoval County, NM; elevation 8,500-9,500 feet.

Number of Animal Units per Month (AUMs): Authorized AUMs are dependent on range condition.

Minimum: 115      Average: 257      High: 420

\*The NPS reserves the right to cancel the 2017 livestock grazing program due to severe drought, wildfire, or other natural events.

Duration: June 1 – September 30, 2017.

Grazing areas: Two (2) pastures (Rincon de los Soldados and Valle de los Posos) on eastern side of preserve, total of 1,343 fenced acres with stock ponds.

Cost: \$20.00 per Animal Unit Month (AUM)

Types of livestock programs acceptable: Cow-calf pairs, bulls, yearling steers, or heifer replacement program

Access to grazing areas: Dirt/gravel road, ~2 miles off paved NM State Route 4.

Permittee responsibilities: Permittee is responsible for providing range rider(s), veterinary services, and minor fence repairs during grazing operations. Herding dogs and horses are authorized (horses pastured on site count as 1 AU/horse). All livestock must have ownership papers with brands, and veterinary records for vaccinations (see Livestock Management Plan).

Public interpretation and scientific research program: The preserve's livestock program is required to further 1) scientific research or 2) interpretation of the ranching history of the preserve (16 USC 698v-11(b)(6)). The permittee shall carry out its plan, as described in the permittee's application, to meet this requirement.

*For questions or additional information about the permit process, please contact:*

Brenda Montoya, Special Park Use Coordinator  
575-829-4823   [Brenda\\_Montoya@nps.gov](mailto:Brenda_Montoya@nps.gov)

*For questions on the grazing program, please contact:*

Bob Parmenter, Chief of Science and Resource Stewardship  
575-829-4850   [Robert\\_Parmenter@nps.gov](mailto:Robert_Parmenter@nps.gov)

Please submit completed applications to:

*US Postal Service:* Valles Caldera National Preserve, P.O. Box 359, Jemez Springs, NM 87025

*FEDEX/UPS/hand-delivery:* 090 Villa Louis Martin, Jemez Springs, NM 87025

*Email:* [Brenda\\_Montoya@nps.gov](mailto:Brenda_Montoya@nps.gov)